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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOMAK 67//

TO GOMPERT/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY/GENERAL SCOWCROFT

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TOMAK 67

MAY 31, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT:

INFORMATION ITEMS

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U.S. GOVERNORS' MEETING WITH PODGORNYY: SOVIET PRESIDENT
PODGORNYY MET ON MAY 28 WITH THE DELEGATION OF EIGHT U.S.
GOVERNORS COMPLETING AN 11-DAY VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION.
A WIDE-RANGING AND FRANK EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE DURING THE
HOUR AND 45 MINUTE MEETING IN THE KREMLIN. PODGORNYY SEVERAL
TIMES RAISED THE 1974 TRADE ACT AND THE JACKSON AMENDMENT AND
EMPHASIZED THAT THE USSR STILL SEEKS AMERICAN TRADE AND
ECONOMIC COOPERATION. HE ADDED THAT IF THE U.S., HOWEVER,
INSISTS ON ATTACHING CONDITIONS TO PURELY ECONOMIC AGREE-

ON-FILE NSC
RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

***** WHSR COMMENT *****

NSA review completed

SECFILE

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DOS, DIA
reviews
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MENTS, THE SOVIET UNION WILL LOOK ELSEWHERE IN THE WEST FOR TECHNOLOGY AND TRADE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE BENEFICIAL TO BUSINESSES IN THE VARIOUS STATES REPRESENTED BY THE GOVERNORS. PODGORNYY ALSO EMPHASIZED KREMLIN SUPPORT FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF DETENTE, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELDS OF ARMS REDUCTIONS AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

PODGORNYY'S PERFORMANCE COMPLETELY CHARMED THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION, WHO WERE PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY HIS FRANKNESS IN DISCUSSING PROBLEMS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND BY HIS READY BANTER ABOUT CHILDREN, ALCOHOL, THE COMPARATIVE QUALITY OF AMERICAN AND SOVIET BEER, AND TOBACCO (HE CLAIMED BOTH HE AND BREZHNEV HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO COMPLY WITH DOCTORS' ORDERS TO QUIT SMOKING). ALL IN ALL, ACCORDING TO AMBASSADOR STONESSEL, THE SOVIETS OBVIOUSLY SCORED A PUBLIC RELATIONS VICTORY BY BRINGING UP ITS HEAVY ARTILLERY AT THE LAST MOMENT.

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PATHEP LAD COMMENT ON CONTINUED U.S. AID TO LAOS: THE PATHEP LAD NEWS AGENCY CARRIED AN ARTICLE ON MAY 29 GIVING THE COMMUNIST VIEWPOINT REGARDING CONTINUED U.S. AID TO LAOS. THE KEY POINTS WERE:

- THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS HAVE THREATENED TO WITHHOLD "AID" TO LAOS, DECLARING THAT THE U.S. WOULD WITHDRAW ALL PERSONNEL AT THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FROM LAOS AND THAT U.S. LAW WOULD NOT PERMIT THE GOVERNMENT TO GIVE AID TO ANY COUNTRY WHERE A U.S. ORGAN DOES NOT EXIST.
- SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE VIENTIANE AGREEMENT, THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS HAVE CONTINUED THEIR "AID" TO LAOS, ESTIMATED AT \$800 MILLION, OF WHICH AN IMPORTANT AMOUNT WAS GIVEN TO THE ULTRARIGHTISTS REACTIONARIES, NOT INCLUDING THE SPECIAL AID OF \$28 MILLION PER MONTH GIVEN BY THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. THIS SUM WAS DIRECTLY TRANSFERRED TO NGON SANANIKONE AND BISSOUK NA CHAMPASSAK WITH A VIEW TOWARD OVERTHROWING THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION AND THE NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL OF COALITION.
- THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS ARE STILL GIVING AID TO THE LAO TRAITORS NOW ASSEMBLED AT KHON KAEN AND UDON IN THAILAND SO THAT THE LATTER MAY CONTINUE THEIR SABOTAGE ACTIVITIES AGAINST LAOS.
- THE 18-POINT POLITICAL PROGRAM STIPULATES THAT "LAOS ACCEPTS DIRECT AID WITHOUT POLITICAL CONDITIONS ATTACHED FROM COUNTRIES WILLING TO ASSIST LAOS IN REHABILITATING AND BUILDING ITS ECONOMY AND DEVELOPING ITS CULTURE ON THE BASIS OF RESPECT FOR LAOS...."
- IF THE U.S. REFUSES TO GRANT AID UNDER THESE CONDITIONS, THE LAO PEOPLE CAN DO WITHOUT U.S. "AID."

THE PATHEP LAD LEADERSHIP EXPECTS THE U.S. TO CONTINUE TO GRANT AID FUNDS TO LAOS. THEIR CLEAR INTENT IS TO REQUIRE US TO HAND SUCH MONEY OVER TO THEM DIRECTLY AND NOT EXERCISE ANY CONTROL OVER HOW IT IS USED.

HANOI COMMENTS ON VICTORY AND FUTURE STRUGGLES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA: HANOI NEWS SERVICE CARRIED A QUAN DOI NHAN DAN (PEOPLE'S ARMY) EDITORIAL ON MAY 28 WHICH DEALT WITH THE RECENT VICTORY IN VIETNAM AND FUTURE STRUGGLES IN SOUTHEAST

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ASIA. THE KEY POINTS WERE:

"VIETNAM'S VICTORY HAS GREATLY INSPIRED...MANY COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA, AND OCEANIA TO STRUGGLE TO FREE THEMSELVES FROM THE INFLUENCE AND DOMINATION OF U.S. IMPERIALISM..."

"SOUTHEAST ASIA IS A GATEWAY LINKING THREE OCEANS -- THE ATLANTIC, THE INDIAN, AND THE PACIFIC -- A CROSSROADS LEADING TO THE MAINLANDS OF AFRICA, ASIA, AND OCEANIA, AND AN AREA OF STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE WITH MANY VALUABLE NATURAL RESOURCES."

"VIETNAM'S COMPLETE VICTORY IS BRINGING ABOUT A GREAT REVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT IN THIS REGION, TURNING IT INTO AN AREA OF GREAT REVOLUTIONARY INFLUENCE...."

"THE VICTORIES OF THE INDOCHINESE PEOPLES HAVE TIPPED THE BALANCE OF FORCES IN FAVOR OF THE REVOLUTIONARY FORCES AND AGAINST THE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY FORCES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA."

THE UPRISING OF THE LAO PEOPLE AND THE MOUNTING STRUGGLE OF THE THAI PEOPLE FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL U.S. TROOPS ARE EXAMPLES OF THIS.

"IT IS NO ACCIDENT THAT MANY COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA ARE TALKING OF DISSOCIATING THEMSELVES FROM THE UNITED STATES ...AND STRENGTHENING THEIR RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. THE PHILIPPINES IS REVIEWING ITS POLICIES... INDONESIA... HAS ALSO SUDDENLY CALLED FOR 'CONCORD'...."

THIS IS THE LATEST MANIFESTATION OF HANOI'S LONGSTANDING BELIEF IN THE DOMINO THEORY.

AMERICANS IN LAOS: EMBASSY VIENTIANE REPORTS THAT THERE ARE 155 OFFICIAL AND 100 NONOFFICIAL AMERICANS IN LAOS AS OF MAY 30, 1975

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